



CITY OF BLOOMINGTON
parks and recreation

A-1
12/9/08

Board of Park Commissioners
Regular Meeting
Minutes

Tuesday, November 18, 2008
4:00 – 5:30 p.m.

Council Chambers
401 N. Morton St.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Carter at 4:05 p.m.

Board Present: John Carter, Joe Hoffmann, Jane St. John

Staff Present: Mick Renneisen, Judy Seigle, Daren Eads, Karen Serfling, Steve Cotter, Cheryll Elmore, Bev Johnson, Anna Weigand, Becky Barrick, Leslie Brinson, Paula McDevitt, John Turnbull, Dave Williams, Sarah Nix, Rob Gilchrist

A. CONSENT CALENDAR

- A-1. Approval of Minutes of October 28, 2008 Meeting
- A-2. Approval of Claims Submitted October 29 – November 17, 2008
- A-3. Approval of Non-Reverting Budget Amendments
- A-4. Review of Business Report

Mr. Hoffmann made a motion to approve the Consent Calendar as presented. Ms. St. Jane seconded the motion. Motion unanimously carried.

B. PUBLIC HEARINGS/APPEARANCES

B-1. Public Comment Period

Mr. Hoffmann stated that a local bicycle recycling business recently requested a use variance to relocate across the street from Fell Iron adjacent to the B-Line Trail. The Plan Commission felt it was an appropriate use. The commission felt it was a good “green” business to have downtown and the owner hopes to use the B-Line Trail as part of his route to get around town. Mr. Hofmann suggested that the owner contact the Parks staff to make sure this use of the trail is appropriate and doesn’t infringe on public use.

Mr. Renneisen stated that the owner has already contacted staff and has worked out arrangements for use of the trail.

Mr. Carter stated his thanks to all of the volunteers that assisted with the recent Leonard Springs Nature Days events. Staff is currently holding a reception to honor all of the volunteers.

Mr. Renneisen invited the Board the staff’s annual retreat on Friday, December 12 from 8:30-3:30 at the Cascades Golf Course. He reminded the Board that the December Board meeting will be on Tuesday, December 9 at 4:00.

Mr. Renneisen stated that he and Mr. Turnbull, along with staff from the Convention and Visitor’s Bureau, recently attended the Amateur Softball Association conference in Oklahoma City where the department was awarded the

2010 USA/ASA Girls 12 and Under Fastpitch National softball tournament. This is one of the top five tournaments in the conference. This tournament will mark the 19th national tournament in 20 years that the department has hosted. This tournament should attract about 100 teams and provide a \$1 million - \$1.5 million economic impact to the city.

Mr. Hoffmann congratulated the staff for this accomplishment.

B-2. Bravo Award – Geo Sarigu

Mr. Cotter addressed the Board and stated that the November Bravo Award is being presented to Geo Sarigu. Mr. Sarigu has been living in Bloomington for two months having moved here from the Galapagos Islands. He studies tourism and hotel administration in college and is certified as a surf guide by the Galapagos National Park. During his time in Bloomington, Mr. Sarigu has contributed more than 50 hours of service to the department. He has volunteered at the After School Nature Days, Bryan Park Creek Maintenance Days, Apple Tasting and Putting the Gardens to Bed. He will be returning to the Galapagos Islands in the next couple of days.

Mr. Sarigu addressed the Board and thanked the staff for being so friendly to him. He added that the experience he has gained here will be put to use when he returns home.

B-3 – Staff Recognition – Curtis Gilstrap – 10 year milestone

Mr. Williams addressed the Board and acknowledged the 10 year milestone of Curtis Gilstrap. Mr. Gilstrap works as a laborer in the landscaping and cemetery divisions. He was unable to attend this evening's meeting, however, his efforts to beautify Bloomington and the cemeteries is appreciated.

B-4. Staff/Intern Introductions – none this month

C. OTHER BUSINESS

C-1. Review/Approval of Partnership Agreement with Buskirk-Chumley Theater for the Golden Age of Hollywood Program

Mr. Eads addressed the Board seeking approval of the partnership agreement with Buskirk-Chumley Theater for the Golden Age of Hollywood Program. He stated that there are no changes to this partnership other than the discontinuation of the BCT Family Series Program. This program offers a monthly matinee on the second Tuesday of each month at 1:30.

Mr. Hoffmann made a motion to approve the partnership agreement with Buskirk-Chumley Theater for the Golden Age of Hollywood Program. Ms. St. John seconded the motion. Motion unanimously carried.

C-2. Review/Approval of Proposal for Aquatics Season Pool Passes for Middle Way House Residents

Mr. Gilchrist addressed the Board seeking approval of an aquatics season pool pass for residents of Middle Way House and The Rise. The Middle Way House and The Rise are temporary shelters for women and children fleeing violent homes. The department has worked for many years with this organization to provide them with fee waivers and other assistance for access to department programs and services. The current process, which requires proof of income and proof of residency, is somewhat difficult for these residents as they frequently have no income and their residency at Middle Way House is temporary. Staff is proposing a new process which allows for the Middle Way organization to purchase a "household" pass that can be used by all residents. This includes the residents at The Rise as well as Middle Way House. This will be presented for approval annually to the Board.

Mr. Hoffmann made a motion to approve the aquatic season pass procedures for Middle Way House and The Rise residents. Ms. St. John seconded the motion. Motion unanimously carried.

D. REPORTS

D-1. Operations Division – Griffy Lake Aquatic Vegetation Update

Mr. Cotter addressed the Board and introduced Nate Long from Aquatic Control Inc. Mr. Long has been responsible for overseeing the surveys and treatments at Griffy Lake controlling aquatic vegetation.

Mr. Long addressed the Board and stated that as part of the Lake and River Enhancement Funds that the department received this year, a public meeting is required. This presentation fulfills that obligation. Brazilian elodea was found in the lake and treated in 2007 and no treatments were required this year. Two other invasive species, Curlyleaf Pondweed and Eurasian Watermilfoil, were detected in the lake and were treated using a \$4,950 grant. Most aquatic plants occur naturally in lakes and are beneficial to the lake; however, these invasive plants must be kept under control. Three vegetation samplings were done in May, July and August to continue monitoring the effectiveness of the treatments. These samplings indicated that no Brazilian Elodea was present and that the native plants were recovering and the water clarity was good. Some Eurasian Watermilfoil was detected and will continue to be monitored and treated as needed. Future plans include funding by the DNR to provide sampling for a couple more years. Maintaining the water quality will help control these invasive plants in the future.

Mr. Hoffmann asked if the wildlife or fish in the plant have been affected by these invasive plants and their treatments.

Mr. Cotter stated that this has not been much of a problem at Griffy and it appears to be a healthy fishery. This is one reason why the decision was made not to draw down the lake for treatment, so the fishery would not be affected.

D-2. Sports Division – No Report

D-3. Recreation Division – Rhino’s Screen Printing Project

Ms. Weigand addressed the Board and presented them with an update on the Rhino’s Youth Center screen printing project. She stated that Rhino’s recently received a grant from the Indiana Arts Commission to design a program that’s an extension of the afterschool youth art program. Participants in this program have done murals on many downtown buildings and many of these kids started a graffiti program which is starting to take off. The kids suggested a screen printing project as a way to expand the arts programs. Danielle Urschel volunteered her time to help set up the screen printing project and the official demonstration will take place on January 6. Ms. Weigand provided some examples of the items that have been completed for a local business. Anyone interested in learning more about the screen printing project should contact Rhino’s at 333-3430.

Mr. Renneisen stated that Ms. Urschel has been involved in other Parks Department projects such as 3rd Street Park Fountain, the murals in Peoples Park, and the B-Line Trail artwork.

D-4. Administration Division – No Report

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Judy Seigle, Secretary Board of Park Commissioners